



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

City Hall - Large Conference Room
300 W. Crowell Street
Monroe, NC
July 6, 2026
4:15 PM

AGENDA

1. Minutes from June 1, 2026
2. Donation to Fire Explorers
3. Slow Monroe
4. Confirm OK
5. Discussion/Information – Police Foundation
6. Street Naming for a Portion of James Hamilton Road

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
June 1, 2026**

The Public Safety Committee met on June 1, 2026, at 4:15 p.m. in the City Hall Large Conference Room.

Members Present: Chairman David Dotson, Council Member Gary Anderson, Council Member Julie Thompson

Absent:

Staff Present: Mayor Robert Burns, City Manager Mark Watson, Assistant City Manager Lisa Hollowell, Fire Deputy Chief Bryan Kindley, Division Chief/Fire Marshal Kevin Philemon, Fire Administrative Assistant II Alice Withers, Police Chief Rhett Bolen, Police Assistant Chief T. J. Goforth, Police Major Shannon Huntley, Police Lieutenant Kris Westover, Police Captain Chad Shoultes, Police Sergeant David Simpson, Police Captain Monique Holt, Police Executive Assistant Rachel Batten, Finance Director Lisa Strickland, City Attorney Richard Long, Senior Staff Attorney Terry Sholar, Staff Attorney William Hunt, Grant Administrator Lisa Kerner, Accounting Manager Ashley Ivey, Engineering Director Sarah McAllister, Land Development Engineering Manager Will Aurret

Guests: John Kanellos

Chairman David Dotson called the meeting to order at 4:17 p.m.

Item 1: Minutes from May 4, 2026 Meeting

Council Member Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting of May 4, 2026. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant (JAG) Program Application

Police Chief Rhett Bolen advised that the Police Department was requesting approval to apply for grant funding to purchase additional equipment that would enhance its ability to prevent crime, expedite case resolution, and improve community safety. Council Member Thompson made a motion to forward to Council for approval. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3: K-9 Vest Donation to the Police Department

Police Chief Rhett Bolen presented to the Committee a K-9 ballistic vest donation by Sandra Karg, in memory of her late husband, Carl Peoples. This comes at no cost to the Police Department. Council Member Anderson made a motion to accept the donation and forward to Council for approval. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4: Slow Monroe Campaign

Police Lieutenant Kris Westover presented to the Committee ideas and data plans to address community concerns for excessive speed in downtown. This was for informational and discussion purposes only.

Item 5: Extension for Police Department Secure Parking Lot

Police Chief Rhett Bolen presented to the Committee a request to approve expansion and fencing of a city-owned parking lot for the department's growing vehicle space needs. Council Member Anderson made a motion to forward to Council for approval. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 6: Rodney Chaney Resolution and Award of Helmet

Fire Deputy Chief Bryan Kindley presented to the Committee a request to award retiring Battalion Chief Rodney Chaney his helmet for his 38 years of service to the City of Monroe. Council Member Anderson made a motion to forward to Council the adoption of Resolution R-2026-38 and authorize awarding Rodney Chaney his fire helmet for one cent. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 7: Aerial Asset Accessibility Grant Application

Grant Administrator Lisa Kerner presented to the Committee a grant opportunity for fund to increase capacity for emergency preparedness and disaster response. Funds may also be used to repair, replace, and restore infrastructure on airport property. There is no matching funds requirement. Council Member Thompson made a motion to forward to Council for approval of apply for the grant. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 8: LIV Fire Inspection Compliance Software

Fire Deputy Chief Bryan Kindley presented to the Committee an overview of a third-party software used by fire inspectors to assist with fire inspections, reduces multiple inspection visits, false alarms, etc. This software comes at no cost to the City of Monroe. This item was for informational and discussion purposes only.

Item 9: 2025 AFG/SAFER Grants for Monroe Fire Department

Fire Deputy Chief Bryan Kindley presented to the Committee authorization to apply for FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant. Chief Kindley withdrew the SAFER Grant opportunity from the agenda, stating that after further research, the fire department wouldn't qualify this year. Chief Kindley stated that staff will evaluate grant objective and determine how the AFG Grant will align with fire department needs. Council Member Thompson made a motion to authorize applying for the grant. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 10: Union County Critical Intersections – Lancaster Ave & Bragg St

Land Development Engineering Manager Will Auret presented to the Committee two design options for safety improvements to the intersection of Lancaster Ave & Bragg St. Option 1 will allow better access control, adds pedestrian facilities and lighting, and results in minimal right-of-way and easement impacts. Option 2 improves roadway signage and striping, and adds lighting with minimal right-of-way impacts. Council Member Thompson made a motion to select Option 1 and forward to Council for approval. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 11: West Franklin Street Pavement Markings

Engineering Director Sarah McAllister presented to the Committee information concerning a request from Council Member James Kerr's request for white edge of roadway markings installed on West Franklin Street from Charlotte Avenue to West Street. NCDOT has acknowledged the request and is currently investigating. This item was for informational and discussion purposes only.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Council Member Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Withers – Committee Secretary



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee

VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager

DATE: July 6, 2026

FROM: Ronald D. Fowler, Fire Chief

PREPARED BY: Alice Withers, Administrative Assistant II - Fire

SUBJECT: Budget Amendment for Donation Received for Fire Explorers

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Fire Department seeks acceptance of a donation to support the department's Fire Explorer Program and approval of a budget amendment allocating these funds to the Fire Department.

REVIEW

The Fire Department received a \$250 donation from Council Member Thompson's discretionary account. These funds will be used for the Monroe Fire Explorer Program.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests that the Public Safety Committee recommend that Council accept this donation and approve Budget Amendment BA-2026-08, and to appropriate and designate these funds to Fire Department expenditure accounts.

Attachment: BA-2026-08

**CITY OF MONROE
BUDGET AMENDMENT
BA-2026-08**

1. Amendment necessary to designate and appropriate funds received from Council Member Thompson's discretionary funds for the Monroe Fire Explorer Program.

General Fund:

Revenues:	
Miscellaneous – Fire	\$250
Expenditures:	
Fire Department	\$250

Adopted this the 14th day of July of 2026.

Robert A. Burns, Mayor

Attest:

Bridgette H. Robinson, City Clerk



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee

VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager

DATE: July 6, 2026

FROM: Rhett Bolen, Chief of Police

PREPARED BY: Shannon Huntley, Police Major

SUBJECT: Downtown Speed Recommendations

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Public Safety Committee is requested to take part in discussion about addressing speeding in downtown Monroe and will be presented with recommendations.

REVIEW

On June 9, 2026 Monroe Police Department presented data from the “Slow Monroe” campaign. City Council requested the Monroe Police Department to present recommendations on addressing the speed complaints and “Strict Enforcement of Speed Limits in Downtown”. The Monroe Police Department would like to present some ideas, data and discuss future plans to address community concerns.

RECOMMENDATION

This is for informational and discussion purposes only.



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee

VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager

DATE: July 6, 2026

FROM: Rhett Bolen, Chief of Police

PREPARED BY: Morgan Malone, Police Lieutenant

SUBJECT: “Confirm Ok”

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Public Safety Committee is requested to engage in a discussion regarding the potential implementation of the “ConfirmOK” program, a wellness check initiative designed to provide daily check-ins for vulnerable residents who voluntarily choose to enroll.

REVIEW

“ConfirmOK” is a voluntary wellness check program designed to help vulnerable individuals who live alone remain connected and safe while maintaining their independence. Participants receive a daily automated check-in call and simply confirm their well-being by responding through the system. If a scheduled check-in is missed, immediate alerts are sent to predetermined contacts to ensure appropriate follow-up. The program is commonly used by seniors living independently, individuals with health concerns, caregivers supporting aging loved ones, and public safety agencies seeking to enhance services for vulnerable members of the community.

RECOMMENDATION

This is for informational and discussion purposes only.



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee
VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager
DATE: July 6, 2026
FROM: Rhett Bolen, Chief of Police
PREPARED BY: Shannon Huntley, Major
SUBJECT: Police Foundation

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Public Safety Committee is requested to engage in a discussion regarding the external implementation of a Police Foundation program.

REVIEW

A Police Foundation is a non-profit, community-led organization that works alongside our police department to fund and support initiatives that go beyond the city's budget. Initiatives that strengthen relationships, improve safety and enhance programs.

RECOMMENDATION

This is for informational and discussion purposes only.

STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee

VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager

DATE: July 6, 2026

FROM: Sarah McAllister, P.E., Director of Engineering

PREPARED BY: Sarah McAllister, P.E., Director of Engineering

SUBJECT: Street Naming for a Portion of James Hamilton Road

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Public Safety Committee is requested to consider re-naming a portion of James Hamilton Road.

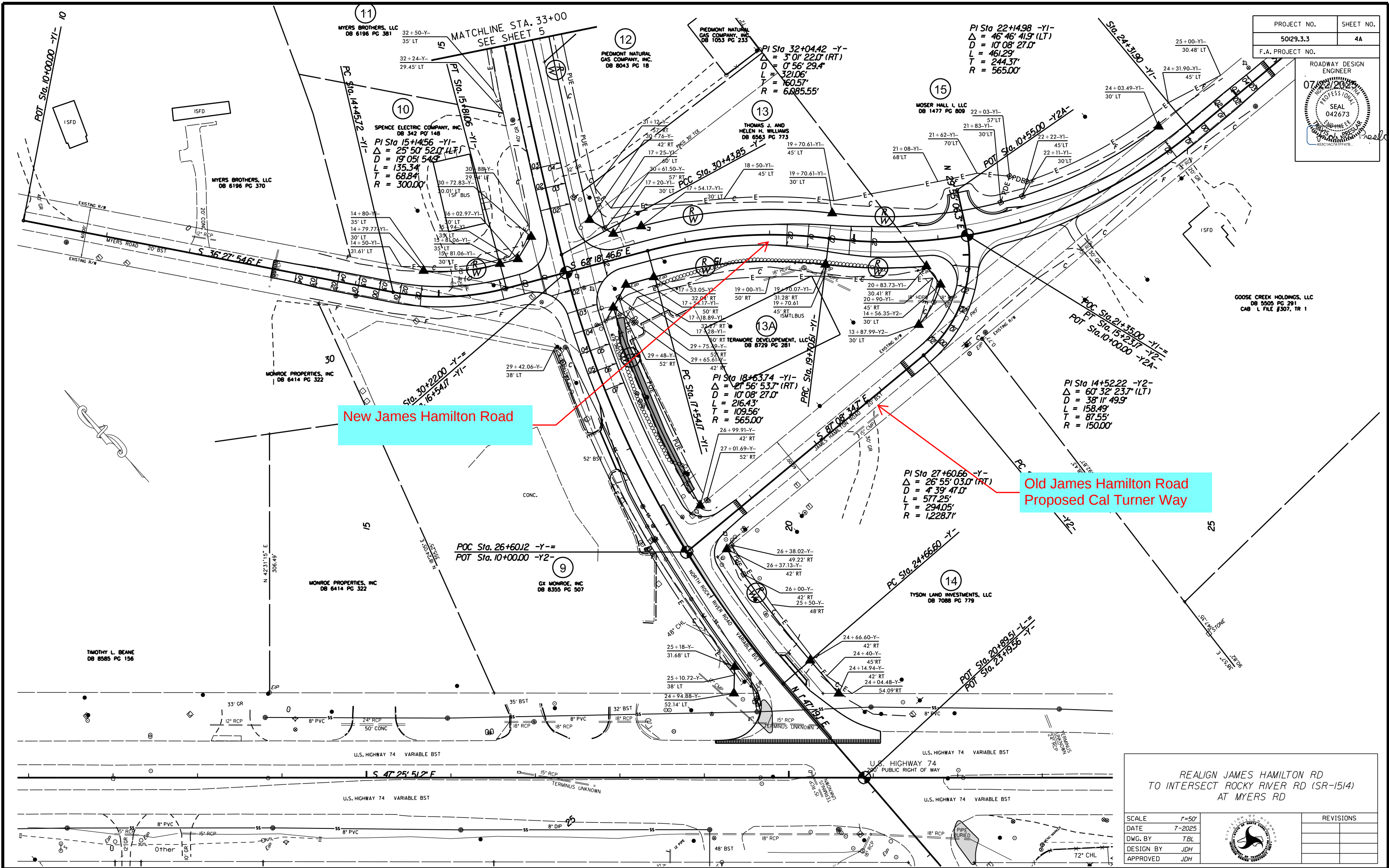
REVIEW

NCDOT Project U-5703B includes the realignment of James Hamilton Road with Myers Road in addition to the previously completed Rocky River Road/ US 74 reduced conflict intersection construction (formerly referred to as a superstreet). The project is nearing completion and the realigned portion of James Hamilton Road will continue to be named the same. Therefore, a new name is needed for the old portion of James Hamilton Road that will remain to serve Dollar General and RaceTrac. Since Dollar General is the only business with an address that will be affected, staff reached out to them regarding a preferred name. Cal Turner Way was proposed in honor of their founder and staff has received approval from Union County's E-911. Resolution R-2026-45 is attached that would formally recognize the old James Hamilton Road portion as Cal Turner Way.

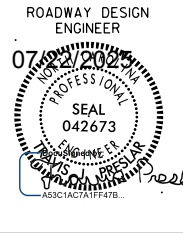
RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of Resolution R-2026-45 to officially rename the old portion of James Hamilton Road as shown on the attached plan sheet to Cal Turner Way. If the Public Safety Committee is in agreement, the attached Resolution R-2026-45 will be placed on the consent agenda for City Council approval on July 14, 2026.

Attachments:
James Hamilton Rd Realignment Plan
Resolution (R-2026-45)



PROJECT NO.	SHEET NO.
50129.3.3	4A
F.A. PROJECT NO.	



GOOSE CREEK HOLDINGS, LLC
DB 5505 PG 291
CAB L FILE #307, TR 1

Old James Hamilton Road
Proposed Cal Turner Way

New James Hamilton Road

REALIGN JAMES HAMILTON RD
TO INTERSECT ROCKY RIVER RD (SR-1514)
AT MYERS RD

SCALE	1"=50'
DATE	7-2025
DWG. BY	TBL
DESIGN BY	JDH
APPROVED	JDH
REVISIONS	

**RESOLUTION TO NAME SECTION OF JAMES HAMILTON ROAD
R-2026-45**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation’s Project U-573B includes the previously completed reduced conflict intersection design for the intersection of Rocky River Road and Us Highway 74 and the James Hamilton Road realignment with Rocky River Road currently under construction; and,

WHEREAS, the new realigned portion of the roadway will remain named James Hamilton Road; and,

WHEREAS, Dollar General is the only property that has an address on the old James Hamilton Road alignment and the property will need a new address for E-911 purposes; and

WHEREAS, City Staff reached out to Dollar General to find out if they had a preference on a new road name for the old James Hamilton Road alignment and they proposed Cal Turner Way in honor of the founder of Dollar General; and,

WHEREAS, to formalize the name of the old alignment, assign a new address to Dollar General, and to avoid possible confusion in the future; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF MONROE that the Monroe City Council formally recognizes the name of the new alignment of James Hamilton Road as James Hamilton Road and renames the old alignment located between Rocky River Road and the new alignment as “Cal Turner Way”.

Adopted this the 14th day of July, 2026.

Robert A. Burns, Mayor

Attest:

Bridgette H. Robinson, City Clerk